

THE MONROE JOURNAL

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

Let's Talk Over.

A Discussion That Hits the Bull's Eye.

Just one month hence and the people of Union county will be called upon to decide for themselves one of the most momentous issues that has ever presented itself to them. Union county has always done her duty when she saw it and she will not fail to act conscientiously this time.

It is not my purpose to say what her duty is, nor is it my intention to advise her how to vote. The people of Union county are an intelligent folk and like to know the issue, and when they know it, it is not hard for them to decide the course they will pursue.

It is evident to all that better roads are needed—to some this is more evident than to others. This evidence weighs in proportion to our standards of the term "good roads." This standard of the man, who has seen no roads better than those to be found in a poor, backwoods community must of necessity be very low, while he who has been accustomed to the roads that have been economically located and properly constructed, with low grades, good drainage and well built bridges and culverts, has a very high standard with which to judge a road.

It is not to either of these classes that I address this article, but to the plain, honest farmer, who has not had the time to think seriously or long upon the subject of the road improvement that now confronts him, and who is asking what it will all cost and how it will benefit the man on the farm or lighten his taxes. To him, a one per cent grade or a ten per cent grade on a road may mean nothing, because he has never been told its meaning. A one per cent grade is one where the grade rises or falls one foot in a hundred and likewise a ten per cent grade is one where the grade rises or falls ten feet in a hundred.

One of the prerequisites for a good road is a low grade and this low grade can no more be made without a level than can a terrace or hill-side ditch be run around a hill without a level. Just here I am reminded that one of the writers in The Journal of last week said that for a long time Union county would not need an engineer. I am glad that he said this. There are hundreds of other good men in the county thinking the same thing and this one item of the law may at first sight appear to be unwise. In travelling over the C. C. & C. Ry. from Altapass on the crest of the Blue Ridge to the valley of the Catawba, not more than five miles away at the nearest point, the fall is 1,300 feet—260 feet fall per mile—and yet a skillful engineer was able to reduce this to 64 feet per mile. Again the distance from Marshallville to Monroe is ten miles and the difference in elevation is 22 feet, which means that it would be possible to locate a road from one point to the other on a grade of one foot per mile, without one particle of grading. This of course would not be a wise location, since the distance would be too great. The distance and the grades must be weighed together, and cuts must be made to reduce the distance. To lay out a road properly and construct it economically, it must have been surveyed and the cost of the different routes computed or the result is almost sure to be disastrous to both. Furthermore, the engineer must be a man who is not only versed in the art of constructing roads and in the economy of their location, but he must be able to clearly demonstrate to others that he knows his work and get men to co-operate with him as the client listens to his lawyer.

The most permanent part of the road is the location and when this is changed all the work that has ever been done on it is lost. Roads have been constructed in many places in Union county, where they were located from one valley across a hill only to descend to the same valley on the other side of the hill. When these roads are to be improved, they must be relocated and then all the work of grading that has been done, will often times be entirely lost. A road when once located, should remain there forever and the only way to make this possible is to locate it properly and the laymen can no more locate a road economically than can a butcher take the place of a skillful surgeon.

To show the actual cost of grades and different road surfaces in terms of horse power, I copy the following from "Baker's Roads and Pavements," which is a recognized authority on road building:

On a level broken stone road, a horse draws six times his weight.
On a level best earth road, horse draws three times his weight.
On a level muddy earth road, a horse draws one time his weight.
On a 3 per cent broken stone road, a horse draws 1.49 times his weight.
On a three per cent best earth road, a horse draws 1.11 times his weight.
On a 3 per cent muddy earth road a horse draws 0.54 times his weight.
On a 6 per cent best earth road, a horse draws 0.43 times his weight.
On a 6 per cent muddy earth road a horse draws 0.25 times his weight.

The foregoing figures do not represent the ultimate strength of a

horse to be sure, but the loads that he will safely draw every day in week. Therefore if you have a 6 per cent grade instead of a 3 per cent grade you will be compelled to double or even quadruple your team. The cost of all roads and bridges to carry the load of one horse in Union county for year ending 1911, was \$17,284.53. Every man in the county knows what his taxes were in order to raise this amount. He also knows that he does not have the best roads over which to travel.

Will a bond issue give you good roads sooner? Did a bond issue give you a modern court house sooner? Will \$200,000 cash give you good roads and bridges sooner than \$17,284.53 per year will give them?

The cost of a \$200,000 bond issue per year will be \$3010.00 for the sinking fund and \$10,000 per year to pay the interest on bonds, making a total of \$13,010 per year or \$0.36 on the poll and \$0.12 per hundred dollars, which means that the road tax for Union county will be \$4274.53 less than at present. It means a greater saving than this. The cost of spending \$200,000 on the roads of Union county in three or four years will not be so great as that of spending a like sum at the rate it is now being spent.

Mr. Tax Payer, does this reduced tax rate sound good to you? Talk the matter over by your firesides, discuss the issue when you meet your neighbor; let the boys debate the subject in the district school and when the day of election is at hand your opinion will have been formed and your duty plain.

You now have the best rural telephone system in the South, your schools are second to none in the State, your homes and barns are far above the average and I trust that you will not let Mecklenburg, Forsyth, Buncombe and other of the more progressive counties leave Union in the rear in the matter of good roads.

IRA B. MULLIS.
Lumberton, N. C., Feb. 24, 1912.

Instead of building imaginary roads and caviling about which side of the house they shall run on, wait and work for the bond issue. That is first, then the survey, then the work, and the cavilling will follow. If the roads damage you in one instance they will help you in many others.—Buford.

Messrs. R. S. Gamble, W. S. Gamble, J. L. Helms and Will Sims of Jackson township came to Monroe last Saturday together with a good team. It took them four hours to make the sixteen miles. It is needless to say that they are in favor of good roads for their section even if it does not run by the house of each.

How to Use the Drag.
Mr. D. Ward King, of Missouri, the inventor of the split log drag, has lately written the following letter:

Much trouble has been caused by persons who advise others to drag the earth road while it is muddy. The King Drag does not give perfect satisfaction, as a rule, when so used. In fact, I have known of so many instances where a trial of that plan has so disgusted a man that he has thrown up the whole job and declared it a fake. The proper time to drag the earth road is when the soil is "moist but not sticky." Moist enough to pack but not wet enough to fasten itself to the slabs of the drag.

The idea of using the King Drag when the mud is like mortar is a seriously mistaken one. I trust you will assist me in correcting it.

In Union county can be found many citizens who own neither a wagon nor a buggy, but who give six days free labor to the county roads every year just the same as the man who owns a dozen horses, a warehouse of vehicles and a thousand acres of land. The bond issue, if voted, will repeal the free labor law and place the burden of taxation on those who reap the most benefit from the roads. There is a rather strong sentiment in this county against the six days free labor and those who oppose it should

Put It on a High Plane.
I note that you give space for opinions on the road bond question. I think that every one who can ought avail themselves of this opportunity to express their views and give reasons for the same. I am in favor of good roads, permanent, substantial roads. Conditions have so changed within the last half century as to make the necessity ten fold greater than ever before. We make ten times more use of the roads now than then. Again, our roads are altogether out of harmony with our progress along other lines. Our homes and farms are more modern and up-to-date in every respect. We have built better schools, our church buildings and cemeteries are better kept and more attractive. We have better court houses and other public buildings. Towns and villages are springing up all about us. A network of R. F. D. lines traverse the county from side to side and from end to end, etc., etc. All these give undisputed proof of our thrift and progressiveness along these lines.

But our public highways reflect sadly upon our intelligence and wisdom. We have the same old gullies the same mud holes, the same quagmires and loblollies of 40 years ago to spoil the beauty and harmony of it all. We ought not to be content with such conditions. So let

us all put our heads together and our hearts in the cause and have better roads. What we need more than anything else is enthusiasm in the matter. If we want the roads bad enough why there is no question but we shall have them. If we hunt for objections, we can surely find them. If there is a better plan than that of floating enough bonds to do the work, let's find it and adopt it. If no better plan can be found, let's "go for" the bonds. I believe if we give the matter careful and impartial thought, we shall find that the proposed plan would prove less expensive than our present. You see we are paying a big tax on the roads. Every able bodied man from 18 to 45 years old is taxed at least \$6 per year and it wages continue to increase (which is quite probable) it will soon become more than this amount. So this tax which we are now paying (a good part of it practically lost) would go far towards paying the expense of bonds. We have been wrestling with the road problem for a life time, and where are we at? Right near the place from which we started. One other point for our consideration and I am through: By far the greatest tax that we pay is the tax levied by bad roads—mud. The loss of time, the wear of vehicles, horses and mules and harness would be greatly diminished, so that the saving on this line, I believe, would eventually build desirable highways. Let us all think impartially, unselfishly, then act our convictions, and we shall have better roads, is the opinion of your

UNCLE O. SEE.
(Continued to page 3.)

Meeting of Teachers' Association.
The Teachers' Association met at the Graded School house Feb. 24. Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. H. M. Baucum of Olive Branch.

Supt. R. N. Nisbet made some interesting remarks in which he urged the teachers to invite the patrons to come out the last day of school and to have on exhibition some of the students' work.

Mr. T. Frank Parker of Raleigh was then introduced and made an interesting talk on the work of the Boys' Corn Club. He urged the teachers to endeavor to interest the boys in the work and let them reap the benefits and honor connected therewith.

The program was then taken up and an interesting talk was made by Prof. J. E. Crutchfield of Marshallville on Discipline in the School.

Prof. J. T. Yeagers of Wesley Chapel made a good talk on the Aims of the School. Prof. Stewart of Unionville also made some appropriate remarks on the same subject.

An excellent talk was then made by Prof. G. A. Randolph of the Monroe Graded Schools on the Importance of Grading in the Rural Schools.

Everyone present seemed to enjoy the meeting and it was a decided success, notwithstanding the inclement weather, there being present about 50 teachers.

T. J. HUGGINS, Sec.

Fine Address of Prof. Brewer.
Prof. Charles E. Brewer of Wake Forest College made a splendid address last Thursday night in the court house to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, a popular fraternal order. His speech, on Washington's birthday, appropriately dealt with the subject of patriotism, one of the principles of the Junior Order, and was a most wholesome and inspiring address.

Good talks were also made by Mr. J. J. Parker and Rev. M. T. Steele. The Juniors have about sixty members here and many more in the county.

Roosevelt Announces Himself.
The papers yesterday carried the formal announcement of Ex-President Roosevelt that he would accept the Republican nomination if tendered him by the convention. "I will accept the nomination for president if it is tendered me, and I will adhere to this decision until the convention has expressed its preference," is his reply to the letter of seven Republican governors asking him to stand for nomination.

The announcement is said to have hurt President Taft very much who is now scrambling for delegates, and who didn't believe Roosevelt would "go and do it."

Succeeding His Father.
"When I first decided to allow the people of Tupelo to use my name as a candidate for Congress I went out to a neighboring parish to speak," said Private John Allen to some friends at the old Metropolitan Hotel in Washington recently.

"An old darkey came up to greet me after the meeting, 'Mars Allen,' he said, 'I see powerful glad to see you. I see know ob you sassy you waz a babby. Knew yuh pappy long befo' you-all wuz born, too. He used ter hol de same office you got now. I members how he held dat same office for years and years.'"

"'What office do you mean, uncle?' I asked, as I never knew pappy held any office.

"'Why, de office ob candidate, Mars John, yuh pappy waz candidate for many years.'"—National Monthly.

Mrs. Charles F. Helms of west Monroe township has made this record on eggs: Since Christmas day she has sold \$17.45 worth of eggs, besides what she used and set two hens with.

GATHERING OF WOMEN WILL BE GREAT.

The Coming Meeting of the Missionary Union Will Be an Event in Monroe—The Great Work of the Organization.

The following article is furnished The Journal by one of the committee of ladies who are making preparation for entertaining the Baptist women of the State in Monroe: Four weeks from today the North Carolina Baptist Woman's Missionary Union meets in Monroe; are you getting ready?

The committee on entertainment report homes secured for 334. We need 66 more homes. The town in the main has responded to our call cheerfully, beautifully and generously. Call up the committee and tell them how many delegates you will take. On account of the unusual weather we have not been able to canvass the town thoroughly yet, but no one will be slighted.

Some one has asked what is this great gathering of women for? What does it mean?

The W. M. U. of N. C. celebrates its 25th anniversary in Monroe in 1912. Until seven years ago it met at the same time and place with the Baptist State Convention. The bodies became so large that no city in North Carolina could accommodate them and separation was necessary. The women have met in separate sessions at the following places in their order: Durham, Goldsboro, Gastonia, High Point, Oxford, Wilmington, and then Monroe. All these places have entertained us handsomely and shown us many special favors.

It will be the largest organized gathering that has ever graced our town and the biggest advertisement. The question was asked when Monroe extended the invitation at Wilmington last year with very doubtful accent, Can Monroe entertain this convention? Our answer was, Come and see.

The W. M. U. stands for the spread of the gospel: first, in our own loved State; second, in our far Southland, and then to the uttermost parts of the earth. Our work is exclusively along lines of missionary endeavor. From our financial report I find we have contributed since our organization about \$300,000. In addition to our regular work, the W. M. U. supports the "Margaret Home" located at Greenville, S. C. This is a home for the children of foreign missionaries who on account of lack of educational facilities, bad climate, etc., are placed in this home by their parents to be trained and educated for their life work. Also missionaries when home on furlough find this a congenial place of rest at small cost. Under our care and control we have a training school for young women at Louisville, Ky. The women take a course in Bible study at the Theological Seminary (located at the same place) with our preachers. They also take courses in cooking, housekeeping, "trained nursing," and enough music to be able to play hymns and lead singing. In other words they are equipped to do the very best service as missionaries on the home and foreign field.

The sessions of the Union usually convene at 9:30 a. m. and 2:30 p. m. The day sessions are attended by women only, women doing all the speaking and transacting all business. At 7:30 p. m. the public is cordially invited. The speakers are by the brethren. Two of the speakers for the meeting are Rev. Dr. Walker of the First Baptist church of Asheville and Dr. R. J. Willingham, the Corresponding Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He has held this office, which is the highest gift of the Southern Baptists, for years. Little more than a year ago he took a trip around the world in the interest of missions. Dr. Willingham has a son on the foreign field who married a daughter of our own beloved Dr. Livingstone Johnson, Corresponding Secretary of our State Mission Board. For these reasons Dr. Willingham is well prepared to speak on the great subject of sending the gospel to the lost world.

The Ministers Must Lead in the Matter.
The Charlotte Ministerial Association at its meeting yesterday decided to preach a series of sermons on "Temperance and law enforcement" and to devote several Sundays, possibly a month to the subject. The series of sermons is to begin between March 1st and 15th, the exact date to be determined later. The recent visit of Rev. L. D. Davis, Superintendent of the anti-Saturn League to Charlotte, and the startling fact that eight bottles of whiskey had been purchased from so many drug stores and clubs in that city—the three of the former and five of the latter—has no doubt led the ministers to action.

The Post has all along insisted that the ministers must lead in this matter. They are the exponents of truth and righteousness and must proclaim against all forms of evil at all times, and aided by the parents, teaching their children the danger of the cup, it ought not to be hard to handle the drink question. The Charlotte ministers have adopted the right method to accomplish their purpose.

Governor Foss, of Massachusetts, has broken all records for pardoning, having restored eighty-one prisoners to liberty during his one year in office. Those pardoned included eleven murderers.

Death of Mr. N. G. Thomas.
Mr. N. G. Thomas died yesterday in a Charlotte hospital, where he went some time ago for treatment. He had been sick a long time. The remains were carried to the home at Peachland, and funeral held today.

Mr. Thomas lived in Monroe several years and did a mercantile business. He was well known in this and Anson counties. He was a brother of Mrs. J. B. Nash of this place, and is survived by his wife and several children.

Sunday School Convention.
The next session of the Sunday school convention of the Union Baptist Association will be held with the Meadow Branch church March 30-31, 1912. All churches are requested to send delegates from their schools and churches. All of our pastors are earnestly requested to attend.

PROGRAM.
Saturday, March 30, 10 a. m.—Prayer and praise conducted by Rev. H. G. Bryant.

10:30 a. m.—The Sunday School as a Training Place for Workers.—Discussion opened by Rev. M. D. L. Preslar.

11:30.—The Sunday School as an Evangelizing Agency: discussion to be opened by Rev. D. M. Austin.

2 p. m.—The Sunday School and Mission: discussion to be opened by Rev. Braxton Craig.

3 p. m.—The Sunday School and our Overseas: discussion opened by Rev. R. H. James.

Sunday, March 31, 10 a. m.—Sunday School Mass Meeting conducted by B. C. Ashcraft.

10:15 a. m.—How to Teach a Class, by J. W. Bivens.

10:30 a. m.—The Best Way to Hold Our Young People, by Rev. E. C. Snyder and Lee Ashcraft.

11 a. m.—The Pastor and His Relation to the Sunday School, by J. E. Sustar, A. C. Davis and B. C. Ashcraft.

12 m.—Sermon by Rev. G. S. Merrill.

7:30.—Sermon by Rev. A. C. Davis.

BRAXTON CRAIG,
Clerk Union Baptist Association.

Unionville News.
Correspondence.
The rain still continues and the roads are getting almost impassable.

Mr. Alvis Baucum was in the village Saturday.

Miss Veva Brewer, who is teaching at Euto, and Mr. Clonnie Moore spent Sunday at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brewer.

Mrs. Jennie James visited in Concord last week.

Mrs. Vernon Mullis has been right sick for several days.

Mr. Stokes Hamilton recently returned home from Wadesboro, where he has been teaching.

Miss Blanche Jerome spent Saturday and Sunday at her home here.

Mr. Web Biggers has his new house here almost completed and expects to move in a few days.

Mr. Cleveland Brooks spent Saturday and Sunday at the home of Mr. Clegg Austin.

Mr. Harold Hartis spent a few days here last week.

Mr. Lane Hasty of Marshallville spent Sunday here.

Unionville has seemed lonely this winter with so many of our girls away teaching, but now most of the schools are drawing to a close and we will be glad to welcome them home again.

"Y. D. K."

WORK WILL BEGIN IN SPRING.

President of Salisbury-Monroe Railroad Here to Confer About Terminals—Everything Ready to Begin Soon.

Work on the Salisbury and Monroe Railroad will be started just as soon as the weather conditions permit it. That is the statement made to The Journal yesterday by Mr. N. B. McCanness, president of the road, who with Mr. England, another of the officials, was here to meet Superintendent Gore of the Seaboard to confer about terminal facilities. Mr. McCanness says that his financial arrangements have all been perfected and he is ready to begin actual work as soon as the weather permits. While the general route which has been surveyed will be followed in the main, some changes will be made. The engineers will go over the route and set the stakes for the construction as early as weather permits.

It is the desire of the company to locate its terminals here to the greatest benefit and convenience of the public and to make a union with the Seaboard. While the latter road has no connection whatever with the new one, it is believed that it will be hospitable to this idea and that there will be no trouble in carrying it out. The same thing is true as regards the Southern at Salisbury.

Superior Court.
The work of Superior court is going along rapidly and will continue through the week. The following cases have been tried since last week:

Bank of Matthews vs. I. D. Boyd, suit on note that defendant had given travelling agent, who sold it to the bank. Mr. Boyd claimed that the note had been fraudulently obtained. Decided in favor of the plaintiff.

Monroe Insurance & Investment Co., vs. Stack & Hudson, judgment for \$145, insurance account.

W. C. Heath, assignee of J. I. Orr, against T. B. Hoover, suit on account, won by defendant.

A. C. Funderburk, landlord, vs. J. E. Morris, tenant, suit over account. The jury decided that Funderburk owed Morris \$47.

B. W. Mangum vs. J. B. Nash, suit regarding number of acres in tract of land sold by defendant to plaintiff. Plaintiff recovers \$181.24.

R. B. Redwine vs. T. J. Honeycutt, suit on account, recovers \$276.09.

M. L. Privett vs. Addie Privett, divorce granted.

H. J. Conders and B. C. Norket, suit for possession. Jury decides that defendant is due from plaintiff \$115 for improvements, as against rent due by him of \$70.

C. A. Scott vs. Willie Bass, settlement of accounts, claim and delivery judgment for about \$90 in favor of defendant.

Real Estate Transfers.
J. F. McManus to Monroe Insurance and Investment Co., lot on Boyette street, \$130.

Miles Horn to B. D. Austin, 200 acres on Negrohead creek, \$3050.

Stephen C. Chambers to J. E. Thomas, 1-2 interest in 67 acres on Lanes Creek, \$400.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hasty to J. E. Thomas, 1-2 interest in lot in Marshallville, \$250.

John P. Poore to Jas. F. Thompson, 213 acres big survey land adjoining J. N. Shannon and others, \$4000.

Harriet Starnes to Jas. F. Thompson, 56 acres on Crooked creek, \$11,000.

R. F. Price to J. W. Hill, lot on Stafford street, one lot on Beard street and Brown avenue, one on south side of city, \$3,500.

J. W. Hill to R. F. Price, 43 acres on Crooked creek, also 2-5 acres, also house and lot in Monroe adjoining J. E. Henderson near oil mill, \$4,400.

Jarussia Helms to G. S. Lee and J. W. Fowler, undivided interest in 70 acres on Bear Skin creek, \$225.

George McWhorter to H. White McWhorter, 26 acres on Waxhaw creek, \$900.

Remarkable Deed by a Small Negro Boy.
Lancaster News.

Mr. B. D. Starnes, who recently came back from Wills Point, Tex., where he removed from Lancaster several years ago, has shown us a copy of the Wills Point Chronicle containing photographs of Calvin Stepp, three year old white boy, who was rescued from the bottom of a 60 foot bored well, 13 inches in diameter, into which the child had fallen, by a small negro boy, who was let down head foremost by a rope and brought the child safely to the top. The Chronicle says that the negro boy's act of heroism has received statewide applause.

Closing Exercises of Piney Grove School.
A public debate will be given on Thursday evening March 7th, beginning at 7:30 p. m. The query for discussion is, Resolved that a Protective Tariff is Preferable to a Tariff for Revenue Only. The affirmative will be represented by C. M. Medlin and J. A. Mullis and the negative by C. C. Benton and C. C. Williams. The teachers and students are preparing an interesting program for Saturday March 9th, which will begin at 9:30 a. m. Prof. R. N. Nisbet, county superintendent will deliver the address. The Mullis string band will furnish music for the occasion. The awarding of prizes and medals will be of much interest to the children.